

REMARKS

Examination and favorable reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following comments are respectfully requested.

Claims 18-20, 24, 29 and 30 are pending in the application. Currently, claims 20, 24 and 29 stand rejected, and claims 18, 19 and 30 are objected.

By the present amendment, claim 18 has been amended.

In the office action mailed March 17, 2006, claims 18 and 19 were objected; claims 20 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; claims 20, 24 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; and, claim 30 was objected.

It is submitted that the foregoing rejections have been traversed by the present amendment.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Kam for taking the time to discuss the outstanding rejections in our telephone conversation of Saturday, September 16, 2006. Applicants discussed the claim amendments being submitted herein and Examiner Kam clarified certain remarks made in framing the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§112, first and second paragraphs. Applicants encourage Examiner Kam to contact the Applicants via telephone and discuss any remaining issues upon receipt and review of this response.

The objection to claims 18 and 19 raised by the Examiner has been duly noted. Appropriate correction has been made. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the objection against claims 18 and 19 and find claims 18 and 19 allowable.

The rejections of claims 20 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph are believed to be mooted by the current amendments.

Claim 20 has been amended to recite a method of vectoring the chemical molecule to a target in vitro using the conjugate of the chemical molecule with the sequence of SEQ ID NO:23.

Claim 24 has also been amended to recite another method of vectoring the chemical molecule to a target in vitro using the conjugate of the chemical molecule with the SEQ ID NO:23.

Claim 29 has been amended to recite a compound of formula (IV), $(Y)_n-(A)-Z_m$, wherein A is the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:23, Z is biotin, doxorubicin or a chemical molecule of an antitumor or antibacterial agent, and wherein $m=1$ and $n=0$.

It is submitted that amended claims 20 and 24 when read in light of the specification, comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection against claims 20 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and find claims 20 and 24 allowable.

It is also submitted that amended claims 20, 24 and 29 when read in light of the specification, comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. With respect to amended independent claim 29, Applicants assert one of ordinary skill in the art recognizes how the linear peptide (A) is coupled to a chemical molecule (Z) in formula (IV).

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection against claims 20, 24 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and find claims 20, 24 and 29 allowable.

For the foregoing reasons, the instant application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

The instant amendment does not raise any new issue which would require further search or reconsideration by the Examiner since the amendments are directed to overcoming only §112 issues. Further, the instant amendment does not raise any issue of new matter.


Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Should the Director determine that an additional fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

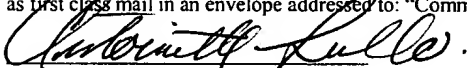
Bernard Calas et al.

By


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I, Antoinette Sullo, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on September 18, 2006.


Antoinette Sullo